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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

83294

COUNTRY Uruguay/Paraguay/Brazil/Argentina

DATE:

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INFO:

SUBJECT Arms for the Paraguayan Gunboats

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SUPPLEMENT

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ORIGIN:

EVALUATION OF SOURCE

EVALUATION OF CONTENT

1. Vicente Ordoño arrived in Montevideo on 9 May, accompanied by a Paraguayan related to one of the officers on the gunboats, and equipped with a list of armaments desired for the boats. They intended to procure as many as possible both in Uruguay and Brazil. Ordoño has previously been identified as a go-between for certain Argentine elements who desired to smuggle arms into Argentina.
2. On 10 May a cache of arms hidden in the Uruguayan District of Cerro Largo was sold for embarkation on the Paraguayan gunboats. This cache was reported to consist of 900 rifles and half a million cartridges, of which 530 rifles and a small quantity of the ammunition were in bad condition. The report has not identified the participants in this deal.
3. A Captain Lagomarsino of the Uruguayan Army, acting for a Paraguayan politician by the name of Dr. Boldobon, contacted Julio Pereira de Souza in an effort to obtain munitions for the gunboats. The latter is a Brazilian who deals in armaments smuggled out of Brazil. Pereira de Souza has given Lagomarsino a letter of introduction to a man in Rio de Janeiro who might be able to supply the needed arms. Lagomarsino is reported to have informed his superiors of his dealings, and to have received assurances, after consultations with the Ministry of National Defense, that the latter would close its eyes to these deals.
4. The private secretary of President Berreta is reported to have gone to Carmelo to instruct the local authorities that they should quietly extend every facility to the Paraguayan gunboats.

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐☒ DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S

DDA New 4 Apr 77

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CLASSIFICATION SECRET

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 13 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008